3. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said poorly crystalline apatitic calcium phosphate has an x-ray diffraction pattern substantially as shown in Figure [3a] 3c.

26. A prosthetic device, comprising:

a prosthesis locatable at a bone site; and

a strongly resorbable, synthetic poorly crystalline apatitic calcium apatite in the form of a powder, paste or putty in surface contact with the prosthesis at the bone site, the poorly crystalline apatitic (PCA) calcium phosphate characterized in that the implanted PCA calcium phosphate is resorbed with a resorption rate characterized in that, when placed in a rat intramuscular site, at least 1 g of the PCA calcium phosphate is at least 80% resorbed within one year[, upon resorption it is replaced by bone].

Please cancel claims 8, 17-20, without prejudice, prior to calculation of the filing fee.

Remarks

Claims 1-26 are pending in the above-identified application; claims 17-20, 23, 24 and 25 are withdrawn from consideration due to a restriction requirement and claims 1-16, 21, 22 and 26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claims 1, 2, 3 and 26 have been amended; and claims 8 and 17-20 have been canceled with this response. The application has been filed as a Continuing Prosecution Application (CPA) to permit the filing of a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Reconsideration of the claims as pending is respectfully requested.

I. Applicants's Invention.

The present invention is directed to a method for treating a bone defect by introducing a strongly resorbable, synthetic poorly crystalline apatitic (PCA) calcium phosphate at the implant site which is resorbed and bone is formed at the implant site. The implanted PCA calcium phosphate is resorbed with a resorption rate which is characterized in that, when placed in a rat intramuscular site, at least 1 g of the PCA calcium phosphate is at least 80% resorbed within one year.